

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A media picker assembly, comprising:

a frame;

5 a plunge assembly operable to travel along a predetermined axis of the frame to engage and disengage a media cartridge; and

first and second cables coupled to the frame for communicating first and second predetermined sets of signals with the plunge assembly, respectively.

10 2. The media picker assembly, as set forth in claim 1, wherein the first and second cables are coupled to opposing sides of the frame.

3. The media picker assembly, as set forth in claim 1, wherein the first and second cables are Z-fold cables coupled to opposing sides of the frame.

15 4. The media picker assembly, as set forth in claim 1, wherein the first and second cables are operable to automatically take up slack therein.

5. The media picker assembly, as set forth in claim 1, wherein the first and second cables are redundant cables that communicate identical signals.

20 6. A media storage system, comprising:

a media cartridge picker assembly operable to traverse along a predetermined path having first and second ends;

25 first and second cables coupled to the media cartridge picker assembly for transmitting first and second predetermined sets of signals, respectively; and

the first cable coupling the media cartridge picker assembly to a first point proximate to the first end of the path and the second cable coupling the media cartridge picker assembly to a second point proximate to the second end of the path.

30 7. The media storage system, as set forth in claim 6, wherein the first and second cables are coupled to opposing sides of the media cartridge picker assembly.

8. The media storage system, as set forth in claim 6, wherein the first and second cables are Z-fold cables coupled to opposing sides of the media cartridge picker assembly.

5 9. The media storage system, as set forth in claim 6, wherein the first and second cables are operable to automatically take up slack therein.

10 10. The media storage system, as set forth in claim 6, wherein the first and second cables are redundant cables that transmit identical signals.

10 11. The media storage system, as set forth in claim 6, wherein the first and second cables transmit identical power and control signals.

15 12. The media storage system, as set forth in claim 6, further comprising a plurality of layers of media cartridges accessible by the media cartridge picker assembly.

13. A method, comprising:

20 monitoring a predetermined signal value carried in an active cable coupled to a media cartridge picker assembly of a multi-layer media storage system;

switching a standby cable coupled to the media cartridge picker assembly to active status in response to the predetermined signal value being different from an expected signal value; and

switching the active cable to standby status.

25 14. The method, as set forth in claim 13, wherein monitoring predetermined signal value comprises monitoring at least two predetermined signal values carried in the active cable.

30 15. The method, as set forth in claim 13, further comprising automatically taking up slack in the active and standby cables as the media cartridge picker assembly travels up and down to access multiple layers of media cartridges.